



# Minutes

## Finance & Resources Committee

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Date: 13 October 2017

Time: 10.30 am

Venue: Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Birkenshaw

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Present: Councillors C Anderson, R Grahame, P Harrand, L Holmes, J Hughes (substitute for J Dodds), G Hussain (in the chair), M Pollard, B Smith, C Townsley, A Wallis

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillor J Dodds and D Ragan

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### 10 Minutes of the last meeting

#### RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Committee at a meeting held on 14 July 2017 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 11 Urgent items

None.

### 12 Admission of the public

#### RESOLVED

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item of business specified below as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted of the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during this item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of the description specified.

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO.</b>	<b>TITLE OF REPORT</b>	<b>MINUTE NUMBER</b>	<b>Description of exempt information by reference to the paragraph number in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.</b>
E9	Sale of surplus land at FSHQ	18	Paragraph 3 – financial or business affairs
E10	Incident Ground Radios	19	Paragraph 3 – financial or business affairs

### **13 Declarations of interest**

None.

### **14 ICT strategy programme - update**

Members received a report from the Director of Service Support providing an update on the ICT strategy programme. The report also included assessments of the progress made, identified challenges and areas of learning and provided an update on the current projects and the first year evaluation.

Councillors queried why Kirklees Council were not deemed the best fit for the HR and Rostering Project. It was confirmed that Kirklees Council's HR and Rostering software would have needed a considerable amount of development work to meet WYFRS's requirements.

It was confirmed that the ICT training coordinator was appointed 2016 and not 2017 as stated (1.3.3 of the report).

It was agreed the ICT strategy programme update would be reported to the next audit committee.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

### **15 IRMP Benefits Realisation**

Consideration was given to a report from the Director of Service Support to inform members of the impact that IRMP 1 and 2 has had following the reductions in budget and how this has affected service delivery outputs and how WYFRS has responded to these changes.

Councillors queried the FRS's emerging risks and threats. Officers confirmed these as future financial abilities to carry out the duties of the FS, legislation changes which are unknown at this point in time and any future pay awards.

It was agreed the IRMP Benefits Realisation report will be presented at the forthcoming Community Safety Committee.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

## **16 Update on new boats and vehicles**

On behalf of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer, AM Jim Butters gave members an update on the purchase of new boats and vehicles, confirming much research has taken place leading to the success of the project. These will remain assets of WYFRS however they will sit on a national register for use by other FRS.

### **RESOLVED**

That the update be noted.

## **17 Quarterly financial review**

Members received a report from the Chief Finance and Procurement Officer presenting the quarterly review of the financial position of the FRA over the last 3 months of the current financial year including both revenue and capital expenditure.

The current forecast projected a significant underspend of £230,000 in the current year largely due to overestimating employer pension contributions and bank holiday overtime. This amount has been transferred from employee's budgets to contingencies. To cover the potential 2% pay award for grey book staff an additional £698,000 has been transferred from contingencies. Further forecasted underspends totalling £550,000 have been identified as detailed in the report.

It was confirmed by KPMG that a transfer of budgets to reserves during the year demonstrates good financial management as highlighted in the external audit report for 2016/17.

The CFPO confirmed there has been no new borrowing this financial year.

### **RESOLVED**

- a) That the report be noted;
- b) Approve the transfer of £550,000 to reserves
- c) That the revisions to the current year's capital plan as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report be approved.

## **18 Sale of surplus land at FSHQ**

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 – financial or business affairs)

Members received a report from the Director of Service Support updating them on the sale of the surplus land at FSHQ. It was confirmed that once the sale was complete WYFRS would receive the money.

### **RESOLVED**

Members noted the progress made with regards to the sale of the surplus land at FSHQ and approved the sale of the land at the revised figure as detailed in the report.

## **19 Incident Ground Radios**

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 – financial or business affairs)

Members received a report from the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and Director of Service Delivery requesting specific approval for the release of funds for the purchase of digital radios for use at operational incidents.

**RESOLVED**

That the specific sums detailed in the report required for the purchase of digital radios be approved.

Chair